

## Saturday Specials Until 1 p.m.

**LADIES' WHITE HOSE**—Lace ankle; our 35c quality. Special, 20c a pair.

**SILVER THIMBLES**—35c each. Special, 15c each.

**WHITE CURTAIN MUSLIN**—36 inches wide, beautiful floral patterns and a good quality; 40c a yard. Special, 20c a yard.

**WHITE MUSLIN BABY BONNETS**—Edged with fine lace and embroidery; 75c each. Special, 50c each.

**CHIFFON AUTO VEILS**—With button top, all shades; \$1.75 each. Special, \$1.25 each.

**EDEN CLOTH**—29 inches wide; specially manufactured for Pajamas and Children's Night Gowns; 20c a yard. Special, 12½c a yard.

**TAFFETA SILK**—In all colors; 65c a yard. Special, 45c a yard.

### Sachs' Dry Goods Co.

Corner Fort and Beretania Streets—Opposite Fire Station

## Sight-Seeing Autos

Leave Hawaii Promotion Committee Headquarters

**MONDAY, WEDNESDAY and FRIDAY**—10:30 a. m., Pali; 3 p. m., Moanalua or Panchbowl.

**TUESDAY, THURSDAY and SATURDAY**—10:30 a. m., around Diamond Head; 3 p. m., Pali.

**SUNDAY**—10:30 a. m., Pali; 3 p. m., around Diamond Head.

**CHARGE PER PASSENGER, \$1**

Cars can be hired for special occasions, \$5 per hour. For particulars apply

**Hawaii Promotion Committee**

Honolulu Power Wagon Co., Owners. Office and Garage, South Street, Near King

## PEONAGE, WAS GOMPERS' CHARGE

(Continued from Page 1)  
their inspection was as strict as the law directs. Mr. Gompers' letter by interference reflected on territorial officials.

The full text of the letter follows:

June 7, 1910.  
Sir:—An appalling state of affairs, which for some time past has been existing on the Territory of Hawaii has been brought to my attention.

I understand that your Department is now investigating the facts reported to you through a petition presented to you on behalf of over one thousand Russian peasants lured into the Hawaiian Territory by the sugar planters of the islands acting under the cover of the Hawaiian Territorial Board of Immigration.

Taking advantage of the provision of Section 6 of the Act of Congress of 1907, referring to the prohibition of Contract Labor Law, whereby the States and Territories under the jurisdiction of the United States are exempted from punishment for advertising in Foreign Countries, the sugar planters of the islands procured the passage of an Act by the Hawaiian Territory on the 22nd of March, 1909, whereby they have permitted themselves to be taxed a special two per cent income tax under the high sounding title "To promote the conservation and development of the natural resources of the Territory through immigration and other means."

Prior to the passage of said Act a public hearing was called by the Committee on Ways and Means of the two houses of the Hawaiian Legislature.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee was Mr. Fairchild, who, at the time, was and I believe still is, the manager and part owner of Col. Spalding's sugar plantation; the Chairman of the Committee of the House of Representatives was Mr.

Robert Shingle, President of the Waterhouse Trust Company, and well known to be heavily interested as owner of sugar plantations.

The President of the Senate, Mr. W. O. Smith, is the Secretary of the Sugar Planters' Association.

Under the above personnel, it was but natural, that, notwithstanding the strong opposition against the passage of said Act, led by Ex-Governor George A. Carter, the Act was passed under the high pressure brought about by the owners of the plantations, who, at the hearing openly declared that they were in urgent need of importing alien labor for their plantations, and were perfectly willing to pay for importation of such labor, but that they could not do under the Acts of Congress unless the Territorial Act be passed.

Pending the passage of the Act above referred to, negotiations were conducted with a Russian Agent in Harbin, Siberia, concerning the importation of Russian peasants for the Hawaiian sugar plantations, and with this in view the Act passed on March 22, 1909, under Section 6, distinctly provided that the Act shall be in effect from the date of its approval, and relate retrospectively to give full effect to the provisions therein contained with respect to taxes for the first taxation period thereunder, and under Section III it is provided that the first taxation period under the Act shall be the year immediately preceding the first day of January, 1909, during which first period the tax was to be one per cent, which was to be payable in full on or before November 15, 1909.

It is self-evident that that Act, as passed and worded, was carefully planned to cover the expense of importation of the first gang of three hundred Russian peasants, whose passage was prepaid from Harbin to Honolulu, and who were brought to Honolulu at the end of October, 1909.

The Board of Immigration of the Hawaiian Territory has established a regular office at the City of Harbin where the peasants are recruited through alluring pamphlets and emissaries promising luxurious employment on the islands, with representations that men were able to earn as much as from forty to forty-five dollars a month.

The people were promised houses with heat, electric light and even furniture, all free of charge, and with an acre plot of ground fit for gardening. The house and plot were to become the ownership of the men after three years, or in lieu of such ownership to receive three hundred dollars in cash.

Evening schools, free hospitals, half of regular wages in case of sickness, free railroad fares to and from the dwellings and places of work, free elementary schools for children, all these great advantages were solemnly promised both in the negotiations with the men and the printed pamphlet spread broadcast.

With such great allurements the contest for the privilege of being taken from Russian Siberia to the Hawaiian Islands was so great that within the last year over one thousand Siberian peasants, men and women, were brought into the Hawaiian Islands, and immediately upon their arrival were distributed among the plantations upon the four islands mainly operated by the sugar planters.

Instead of all the comforts above described, the people found wooden shanties, without roofs, the floors made of rough boards, set apart with wide crevices. The furniture consisted of a few benches, a table and a few beds; instead of the promised electric light, kerosene lamps were to be used, the oil to be supplied by the men themselves; the fuel consists of the roots of sugar cane, which the men were to carry from three to seven miles.

Coal is a great luxury, which is but seldom obtainable.

Instead of the free transportation to and from work, the men had to walk to the place of work at a distance of five miles, and the time consumed was not included in the working day; lateness of from five to ten minutes was punished by a deduction of a quarter of a day's pay; the wages are \$22.00 a month for men and \$13.00 for women.

The men are compelled to buy all their provisions in the plantation store at such exorbitant prices that they exceed the earnings due and they become the debtors of the planters.

In short the conditions are such as would fully establish a condition of peonage.

After three months of suffering and quiet submission, the men having spent not only their scant earnings

but the money they brought with them, realized from the sale of their real property and other belongings at home, the men revolted; they left the plantations and went to Honolulu with a view of informing the American Government, through its regularly constituted authorities.

The people looked for work elsewhere, but could find none.

The Governor of the Territory was informed by a delegation sent by the men, of the unbearable conditions, but the only answer that they received from the Governor was that they were to return to the plantations, and a promise to improve the conditions of their life was made.

The people returned to work, but found no fulfillment of any of the promises made, and the people began to appeal for assistance from the outside world.

The people rose in protest, then they were driven from the plantations.

Some have found employment working on Japanese vessels.

Hundreds of others were left breadless and homeless, all of them having been driven from their shanties, their belongings having been thrown out into the open fields, where the men, with the women and children are now roving under the open sky, pleading and crying for help.

They have sent two delegates to go to Washington; on their way these delegates stopped at the Imperial Russian Consulate at San Francisco and they were there assured by the Consul that there was no necessity for them to go to Washington, advising them to return to Honolulu, the Consul having referred them to a Russian representative, one Kerberg, who, he assured them, would take care of their grievances and remedy all wrongs.

The men returned, but nothing was

done for the people, and the owners of the plantations evidently took another course to drive the people into submission.

It started with the arrest of their three leaders, A. Vasilieff, Biloff and Surupoff, who charged with vagrancy were sentenced to three months' imprisonment; then came ten more arrests for alleged vagrancy, and six of them were sentenced to six months' imprisonment.

At the time Vasilieff was arrested the people rose in indignation, demanding an explanation for the arrest of their leader, but they were brutally attacked by the police, wounding many of the men, as well as the women and children.

Rumors have been spread through the press dominated by the planters, with a view of overawing the peasants and forcing them into submission; the Police Commissioner of Honolulu had ordered the police to shoot to kill.

From the examination of the above it seems very clear that a flagrant violation of the contract labor provisions of the Act of Congress of 1907, Sections 4 and 5, has been continuously and systematically carried on by connivance between the authorities of the Hawaiian Territory and the sugar planters of the islands. No matter how well they seem to have covered their avert acts, a thorough investigation by your Department will disclose that the passage of the peasants has been prepaid by the Agents of the Territorial Board of Immigration, which is a violation of the law and from which the officials of the Hawaiian Board of Immigration are not exempted by the provision of Section 6 of the Act of Congress of 1907.

That the intention of our Government seeking protection for American Labor shall be so frustrated by our Annexed Territory, rules and do-

minated by exploiters of labor, will not be tolerated by your Department, is the sincere hope of American Organized Labor, which I have the honor to represent. And with this sincere belief, I take the liberty of laying the matter before you.

I trust that immediate steps will be taken by your Department for the prevention of the continuance of the peonage system practiced upon our Territory, and that those who have heretofore violated the law will be legally prosecuted for the violations of laws by them committed, and that legal action will also be taken in behalf of the victims of fraud and misrepresentation, pursuant to Section 5 of the Act of 1907.

Very respectfully yours,  
SAMUEL GOMPERS,  
President American Federation of Labor.  
HON. CHARLES NAGLE,  
Department of Commerce and Labor, Washington, D. C.

**HEDEMANN WILL DO PROMOTION**

Manager Hedemann will leave for the coast on the Korea on his way to New York to place a part of the contract for the new Formosa sugar mill with eastern foundries.

Accepting his offer to do anything in the line of promotion for the islands while he is on the mainland, the Promotion Committee has asked him to "size up" the situation at Atlantic City as regards Hawaii's exhibit on the board walk.

Secretary Wood, of the Promotion Committee will arrive on the Wilhelm next Tuesday.

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*The* **Carion**  
FORMERLY THE KASH COR. HOTEL & FORT ST.

## The Second Week of Our Great Sacrifice Clearance Sale

### Will Begin Monday, Aug. 8

**OUR GREAT SACRIFICE CLEARANCE SALE** is the talk of the town. Through every department articles are marked at **HALF** and some at **LESS THAN HALF** of their former prices, offering rare opportunity to purchase at little cost a supply of **GOOD DRY GOODS**.

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